Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4353

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TAGS: PGOV PINR PINT MR

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW MAURITANIAN CABINET

REF: A. NOUAKCHOTT 1708 B. NOUAKCHOTT A-62 DATED SEPT 4.

- 1. MAURITANIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ANNOUNCED AUGUST 21 AND 22,RESULTED IN APPOINTMENT OR RESHUFFLING OF TWENNZ-EIGHT MINISTERS OF STATE AND MINISTERS. AVAILABLE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON ALL TWENTY-EIGHT PERSONS WAS REPORTED IN REFAIR. THIS AIRGRAM VIRTUALLY EXHAUSTS UNREPORTED BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION CURRENTLY HELD BY MISSION ON THESE OFFICIALS. EMBASSY HAS BEGUN PROGRAM TO FILL IN CURRICULUM VITAE GAPS. PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS WILL BE FLESHED OUT AS TRACK RECORDS ARE ESTABLISHED.
- 2. IT IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE FOLLOWING GENERALIZATIONS ABOUT THESE TWENTY-EIGHT INDIVIDUALS. AVERAGE AGE IS THIRTY-NINE. ALTHOUGH FIVE WERE BORN IN BOUTILIMIT, GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHPLACES IS GENERALLY GOOD. (SINCE NOUAKCHOTT DID NOT EXIST UNTIL 1960, NONE IS FROM CAPITAL CITY). SEVENTEEN ARE MOORS AND ELEVEN ARE BLACK. ALL BUT ONE RECEIVED AT LEAST PART OF EDUCATION--SECONDARY AND/OR UNIVERSITY--OUTSIDE MAURITANIA. MOST POPULAR LOCATIONS FOR OUTSIDE STUDY WERE SENEGAL AND FRANCE. NONE HAS BEEN EDUCATED IN AMERICAN SCHOOL BUT THREE HAVE VISITED US UNDER USG AUSPICES. MOST OF NEW FACES IN CABINET CAN BE CLASSIFIED AS TECHNOCRATS. NUMBER OF MINISTERS FROM PREVIOUS CABINET, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN RETAINED SOLELY BECAUSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THEIR POLITICAL AND/OR FAMILY TIES.HANDYSIDE

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